

Minutes of Foundation for Ada-Canyon Trail Systems
COMPASS Conference Room
March 16, 2016

1. Attendance:

Jeanne Barker, Garden City
Tom Chelstrom, Boise River Enhancement Network
Mark Eubank, Citizen
Jim Everett, Retired Chief Executive Officer of the Boise YMCA
Sharon Hubler, F.A.C.T.S. Treasurer
Tom Laws, COMPASS
Paul Mann, Caldwell Path and Bike Committee
Robert Minch, Citizen
Sabrina Minshall, COMPASS
Steve Noyes, City of Eagle
Kathy Parker, COMPASS
Gary Payne, F.A.C.T.S. Vice-President acting Secretary
Phil Peterson, Nampa Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Don Stockton, Eagle Parks and Pathways
Charles Trainor, F.A.C.T.S. Secretary
Mark Wasdahl, Idaho Transportation Department

1. Call to order at 3:00 by Vice-President Gary Payne. He noted that President William Gigray was unable to attend due to a meeting conflict.
2. Vice-President Payne asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. There were none proposed. Charles Trainor moved and Mark Eubank seconded to approve the agenda, and it was approved on a voice vote.
3. Administrative Action Items
 - a. Minutes. Gary Payne noted the minutes of the February 17, 2016 meeting had been disseminated and he asked if there were any changes. A change was noted to Item 4b that the funding of \$5000 for the City of Nampa came from Republic Services. No other changes were proposed and Sharon Hubler moved and Robert Minch seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was approved on a voice vote.
 - b. Bank Account Report. Sharon Hubler presented the treasurer's report, noting the balance was unchanged from the previous month at \$12,187.12. She offered to provide a one page report if this would be needed for the record. She then noted that the real property information had been included in the packet. Sharon said there may be a need to investigate the properties but there was no decision needed at this meeting. She recommended forestalling any transfer of property to Ada County, noting this specific property is owned by F.A.C.T.S. in fee simple. It was purchased in 2010 for \$4000 with assistance from John Caywood in doing a lot of the paperwork. It could be a match for some future grant. She noted the land is a heron rookery. Don Stockton concurred with Sharon that F.A.C.T.S. should hold onto the land. No action was taken on these matters.
 - c. President's Report
 - i. Assignment of Easements Progress. Sharon noted that progress was being

- made according to President Gigray. A meeting had occurred with Scott Koberg.
- ii. Letter to Department of Lands. Don Stockton said he had prepared a letter for President Gigray, who made some changes. Don believed the letter had been sent.
 - iii. Laguna Pointe Tour. Don Stockton said he had taken William Gigray on a tour of the pathway, since William had not any first hand knowledge of the issues.
 - iv. Discussion of appointment of standing committees to address local pathway issues. Gary Payne described the need to have some formal groups to work with the various communities, people who have a better understanding of each community's needs. Robert Minch noted he had been "volunteered" for this at the last meeting in absentia. He voiced concern about what these groups would be authorized to do, e.g. writing letters on behalf of F.A.C.T.S. Don Stockton noted in the City of Eagle situation there was a need to rush a letter. Steve Noyes said there was still some confusion about this issue on the part of City Council, but it was a step forward. There was a question as to how many groups are working on pathway issues in the two county area. Tom Laws said COMPASS hasn't set up a list. Gary Payne said the F.A.C.T.S. website could be a place for a list. Paul Mann noted the value of a list in the event of legislation affecting pathways. Committees to reflect local issues should be created on an ad hoc basis rather than have standing committees.
 - v. Joint Powers Agreement for agency cooperation on Pathways planning and maintenance. Gary Payne said he had nothing new on this, but William was working on it.
- d. Other Officer Reports as Needed. Gary Payne noted he had attended a session with the Boise River Enhancement Network. He said that pathways were not always appropriate in the river environment in light of habitat preservation. Tom Chelstrom said BREN needed to find how to make recreation use and preservation compatible. Charles asked if the Canyon County section of the Boise River presented any different challenges than the Ada County section. Tom noted the greater issues with irrigation in Canyon County, where irrigators have less experience in dealing with recreational users. In one case, water had been diverted almost entirely away from the river. A greenbelt in Canyon County would be challenged by such diversion, but Idaho law give preeminence to irrigation needs according to Tom. He said BREN has met with Mayor Nancolas of Caldwell on portage issues. Gary Payne noted BREN's work on mapping the river. Tom offered copies of the plan to attendees. No other reports were made.

4. Special Information Items

- a. Web Design. Gary Payne said work was going slowly since the web designer was working on a voluntary basis for the most part. There has been an initial review, but there is a long way to go. Robert Minch said he had talked with Gary Segers about the need to partner with other social networks. He said William Gigray may have someone to assist in the work. Gary Payne said the website should be a resource for people—a place to get in information on the river.
- b. Public Engagement in Pathway Planning. Gary Payne noted much of this had already been covered in the prior item, since the website is intended to engage the public.

- c. Comment on City of Eagle Master Park Plan. Robert Minch had prepared and sent a letter to the City of Eagle mayor and council members. He noted the letter did not object to the elements of the plan but voiced appreciation for the opportunity to comment. It asked for involvement in the future pathway plan.
 - d. Better Living Through Trails Meeting. Paul Mann said this meeting would be on April 1, 2016. No further discussion.
 - e. Grant Applications – Idaho Community Foundation and Clean Cities Coalition. Paul Mann said there was a draft letter by William Gigray that had been circulated. The proposal would be through F.A.C.T.S. and would put up four or five sign boards along the path at a cost of \$3-4,000. Applications are due May 1. Don Stockton moved to accept the letter as written and Jeanne Barker seconded. Motion was approved on a voice vote.
 - f. Long-term Planning for Pathway Maintenance. This item was deferred due to the absence of William Gigray.
 - g. COMPASS Mapping Review. Tom Laws said this map would be tied into the preparation of the transportation plan. Charles said he and William Gigray had met with Tom and Sabrina Minshall to discuss the timing of when the pathway map could be available for public review. Charles said this could take another year. Tom said this process would involve a variety of approvals from the COMPASS Board as well as the local agencies. Charles said there would be a more formal presentation on this at the April meeting. Gary Payne said he would welcome clarification since the intent is to get this map onto the F.A.C.T.S. website. Charles noted that even within a community there could be confusion as to what is the “official” pathway plan. There was a comment by Paul Mann about the need for consistency about what the lines on the map mean. In a response to a question regarding the tie-in to safe routes to school, Tom Laws noted that COMPASS has an active transportation work group. Tom emphasized there would be an extensive public comment period on this map, including school access and safe routes.
5. Reports as Time Permits
- a. Ada County Highway District. No report.
 - b. Ada County Parks and Waterways. No report.
 - c. Caldwell Trails and Pathways: Paul Mann said they had reviewed four layers of maps. On May 17 there will be a big meeting and they will try to coordinate with adjacent communities and highway districts. On April 23 there will be a clean up event along the Boise River. They will cut back vegetation and do other work.
 - d. Canyon County Parks and Recreation. No report.
 - e. Canyon Highway District #4. No report.
 - f. City of Eagle Parks and Recreation. Steve Noyes said they were working on bank restoration along the Boise River. He noted the upcoming Better Living Through Trails meeting on April 1. He said they were looking at construction specifications to deal with tree root issues. Several people noted this was an issue everywhere, and Boise City and Ada County were recommended as a source for specifications. Blaine County was also

noted as a source.

- g. Eagle Parks and Pathways Development Commission. No report.
- h. Garden City. Jeanne Barker said they were dealing with beaver issues and fallen trees along the greenbelt. Tom Chelstrom recommended calling Boise, although this issue has been a problem for everyone. Wrapping the trees with wire seems to work best. Beavers seem to go after willows and cottonwoods mainly.
- i. Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation. No report.
- j. Idaho Oregon Snake River Water Trail. No report.
- k. Meridian Parks & Pathways. No report.
- l. Nampa Parks Department. Phil Peterson said Phase 1 near the railroad station has been completed.
- m. City of Kuna. No report.
- n. Other. Many detours in Boise along the Greenbelt. Tom Chelstrom recommended people visit the Ada County web site to view the Boise River Trails Plan adopted by both Ada and Canyon Counties and numerous others. He said he had been busy working on portage plans for four diversions in Boise along the river. One of these is at the Broadway Bridge, involving the takeout ramp. Two others involve diversion dams. He voice concern about the Broadway takeout designed by ITD not having any restrooms or other amenities. He said the plan is to put identification signs on both upstream and downstream sides of all bridges to allow people in trouble to more easily identify their location. He said there is some disparity in mile markers along the river, with one GIS based analysis finding the river has five more miles than earlier USGS surveys. He noted an access issue for the Westmoreland takeout due to a property owner.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Next meeting was set for April 20, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Trainor, Secretary

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